



July 28, 2006

This Week In Correction

A weekly update of events in the Tennessee Department of Correction

COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE:



Commissioner Little was the guest speaker at the "Life after Prison and Parole" conference at New Sardis Missionary Baptist Church.

"I talked to the young people about going and coming from prison, the importance of education, respect for ones elders and peers and improving their reading, writing and speaking skills. I also had a chance to talk with members of the community who were present about our re-entry program in the Department Correction. I shared that while most of our re-entry efforts are focused in Middle Tennessee, we have an interest for inmates in Memphis as well. I look forward

to future collaborations with Shelby County government officials to assist the men and women going back to that part of Tennessee.

During my visit, I learned that 73 juveniles are currently being held in the Shelby County jail on possible adult charges. I found it very sobering that so many young people under 18 are locked up waiting to go through the system and perhaps enter the state system. It's a difficult issue, but it points to the need for our re-entry programs and efforts in all communities to turn things around."

A Celebration of Life

You're invited to join the Administration and Staff of Brushy Mountain Correctional Complex in a Celebration of the life of Wayne "Cotton" Morgan on Wednesday, August 9th 2006 for a short service. There will be a reception to follow.

We will be gathering at the Minimum Security visiting gallery at 1:30 PM.

WHO LET THE DOGS OUT?

Corporal Jeff Hall, K-9 Tracker, **MCCX**, received this letter from Fentress County Sheriff Ray Atkinson for the K-9 unit's help tracking down two recent escaped inmates.

"My Chief Deputy and I would sincerely like for you to know just how much we appreciate all you did for us in tracking the two inmates who escaped on July 20, 2006. I have always liked the slogan, "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" and now I know just how helpful that statement is."



Cpl. Jeff Hall with a crew from MSNBC and Officer Mark Norman, Sgt. David Bunch, Cpl. Jeff Hall, Lt. Jackie Rather and Officer Larry "Porky" Harris.

AW/O Jim Morrow presented K-9 Cpl. Hall and K-9 Officer Bob Griffith with certificates of commendation for especially meritorious, courageous and professional service in the pursuit and apprehension of Billy "Mountain Main" Lowe who was wanted for committing several burglaries and shootings.

CABBAGE HEAD!



"The garden at **MCCX** is doing very well! **MCCX** has an abundance of cabbage as Food Service Manager III Carey Newberry displays. All heads are uniform in size and weigh an average of "24 pounds each"! Needless to say they are enjoying it How was it done in such dry weather? It's a secret!

TRUST THE DOG, WATCH THE CAN!

Mick the K-9 knew something wasn't quite right. After he responded to an inmate's cell at **TCIP**, Cpl. Charles



Luellen had a search team go in and search the cell. They reported that the cell was clear. But Mick wanted back in. This time he went straight to a six pack of tea on the floor.



The pictures tell the story. The substance inside tested positive for THC. The inmates were charged with possession of drug paraphernalia.

BRINGING IT HOME!



Congratulations to Jim Dickman, Director of Community Service, Lolie Jones, Security Monitor and Dan Strickland, Program Support Coordinator, all Central Office, on completion of homeland security training. The trio received certificates from the Governor's Office of Homeland Security for successful completion of the training which was held in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Shouldn't we all feel a little safer?

ROLE PLAYING AT STSRCF:

The question was what would you do if a terrorist group decided to take a group of hostages from the facility. **STRCF'S** Cert team played out that scenario this week during Hostage Negotiation training with the Cumberland County Sheriff's Department. It was an extremely hot day and the team would like send special thanks to the Emergency Management Agency Director Keith Garrison, his assistant, Linda Brooks and Sheriff's Department Cpl. David Hamby, Chief Investigator Gary Howard, and Lt. Detective Darrell Sherrill.

HOW DID YOU SPEND THE 4TH OF JULY?

Dan Strickland's Brother Ronnie, who works at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, snapped these photos of the Independence Day launch of the space shuttle Discovery. Dan agreed to share a few of them with us. If you'd like to see more, contact Dan at Central Office.



WHAT WAS I THINKING?

Last week I told you about Charlie Pardue's promotion and mentioned her lovely daughter, well I got her name wrong. The beautiful little cheerleader (left) is Kayla. She just turned 6 and is about to start first grade, where hopefully she will pay closer attention in school than I did.



PROFILES IN CORRECTION: The Untold Story

John Fisher, Special Agent, Internal Affairs. The man behind the badge.



For security reasons, I can't show you John Fisher's face. At 6'1, 390lbs., John is a towering, seemingly intimidating character. He's been called everything from a pit bull to a monster, but the truth is, he's really just a teddy bear.

How long have you been with TDOC?

"14 years. I started as a Correctional Officer at CBCX, transferred to DSNF and then internal affairs.

Why did you want to be a part of I.A.?

"It's something I've always wanted to do, it's interesting. I'm allowed to help staff, inmates and free world. I have investigated homicides, rapes, sexual harassment cases. We're truth seekers.

How did you become interested in corrections?

I was in the military, fought in Desert Storm/ Shield with the 101st Airborne Division. When I was discharged, a friend of mine needed a ride to Nashville because his car broke down. He was going to take the test to become a CO. It took us an hour to find the James K. Polk Building. When we found it, I said I was going to ride around to kill some time. He said, why don't you come take the test with me? I did and passed and 14 years later, here I am.

Tell me about your family life.

"I have a 13 year old daughter, Johnique. I named her after me, that's my baby. She's my first child and family means the world to me. She will be in the 8th grade this year. She absolutely has me wrapped around her finger. All she has to do is bat her eyes and say Oh, Daddy! I'm hooked.

Who has had the biggest influence on your life?

"Of course Mom and Dad, they've passed away and a Sgt. at DSNF, Darryl Thomas. I thought for a long time that I was the best thing since gravy. He brought me down to earth and helped me put things in perspective.

The biggest lesson I've learned is to be patient, good things come to those who wait. I've been very patient and good things have come to me. Now I want to become warden one day.

QUOTES OF THE WEEK:

"Truth is the best vindication of slander"

-President Lincoln in a letter to Secretary Stanton, refusing to dismiss Postmaster General Montgomery Blair, July 18, 1864.

-Submitted by Scott Ulm, Media Director, **TCA**.

"Faults are like headlights on a car...we see those of others as more glaring than our own"

-Submitted by Hilda Griggs, Training Specialist, **TPW**

Never ask "How high is the mountain?" Instead, always be prepared to climb as high as you must, one step at a time, until you reach your goal.

-Submitted by Mariaelena Mosal, Admin. Secretary, Deputy Warden's Office, **CBCX**